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Agenda item 117

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 25 September 2002. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/57/SR.1 and 2). An addendum to the present report will reflect the further consideration of the item by the Committee during the fifty-seventh session.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 27 June 2002 from the Acting President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/56/46), transmitting a letter dated 21 June 2002 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions to the President of the General Assembly.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.2

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 25 September 2002, the representative of Pakistan, coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" (A/C.5/57/L.2).

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5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.2, without a vote (see para. 7).

6. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Burundi (see A/C.5/57/SR.2).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999,

Having considered the letter dated 27 June 2002 from the Acting President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 21 June 2002 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions regarding the recommendations of that Committee on requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations,[1]

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Agrees* that the failure of the Comoros, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

3. *Decides* that the Comoros, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until 30 June 2003;

4. *Also decides*, while welcoming the undertaking and assurances provided by the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations, to permit Burundi to vote in the General Assembly until the next substantive session of the Committee on Contributions, scheduled to be held from 2 June 2003.

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[1] A/C.5/56/46.